

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 368

By Pruitt

### A RESOLUTION recognizing Julius Campbell.

WHEREAS, from time to time, the members of this General Assembly pause in our deliberations to honor the memories of those intrepid Tennesseans whose influence on their communities have been a constant and unwavering source of inspiration; and

WHEREAS, the late Julius Campbell, the former sexton at St. Ann's Episcopal Church, was one such individual who, throughout his lifetime, evinced the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, on June 7, 2008, the congregation at St. Ann's will honor Mr. Campbell's meritorious service to the Church during the celebration of St. Ann's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Campbell, who cared for St. Ann's Church under nine Rectors and four Bishops, was credited for saving St. Ann's from the East Nashville fire of March 22, 1916; it was the worst conflagration in the city's history to hit Nashville; and

WHEREAS, describing the event years later, he stated that "It looked like the world was on fire that morning"; and

WHEREAS, members at that time rushed to the Church to save the silver and brass articles on the altar and to rescue the Bible, thinking it was impossible to save the actual Church building; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Campbell, who thought otherwise, took apart an extension ladder, grabbed fifty feet of garden hose from his house and proceeded to place one ladder up to the roof of the church and one to the roof of the rectory, serving as a one-man fire department; and

WHEREAS, he worked fervently to save both buildings by scampering up and down each ladder to extinguish sparks and prevent flames from turning into a full-blown fire; and

WHEREAS, Julius Campbell arrived at St. Ann's on October 14, 1902, on a two-week trial basis; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious tenure at St. Ann's, Mr. Campbell performed many duties in the church's early days, including lighting the gas lights, pumping the organ, and serving as the chef for the first men's club; and

WHEREAS, he also rang the Church bell every Sunday for thirty-one year, until tornadoes ripped it down in 1933; he polished the bell for the next twenty years as it rested in the church basement, waiting to be replaced in the tower, a momentous event which occurred in 1955; and

WHEREAS, St. Ann's members held "Julius Night" in 1949, 1953, and 1962 to honor the sexton, who had become an institution at the Church; he retired from his duties at St. Ann's in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Julius Campbell was an extremely giving person who epitomized the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor, and he is wholly deserving of the recognition of this Body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we join with the members of St. Ann's Episcopal Church during the celebration of the Church's 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to honor the memory of the late Julius Campbell, a man who loved his church and dedicated his life in service to it, for his many years of remarkable service to St. Ann's Church.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.